



LETTERS



"Letters to the editor are welcome on any subject of concern to students or faculty of MSOE. Opinions expressed in such letters are not necessarily the opinions of the MSOE Ingenium staff or of the institution."

Thanks For The Help

To whom it may concern:

We at the Society of Model Engineers would like to thank the person or persons who so graciously volunteered to exert their efforts in service to our club. It was very kind and generous of you to take down our "Railroad Show" sign and store it for us. This not only saved us the time involved in taking it down, but also solved our problem of where to store it, as there was no longer any room within our club to keep it undamaged.

We would, however, like to offer one minor criticism: you took it down one night too soon. This caused some confusion for our visitors, as some of them had not been to one of our shows for a number of years and did not realize we had moved recently. If you decide to help us again next year, please wait until the show is over.

It had been suggested that perhaps some of our school's frat members were involved; we would like to believe that this is not true. We know that the frats do not condone this type of "help", and would like to hope that they will help us in finding out which if any MSOE students are involved so that our club can properly thank them in person.

Sincerely,

Martin A. Hintz

Vice President of Public Relations
Society of Model Engineers

A Concerned WMSE DJ

Dear Editor:

As a member of the air staff at WMSE, I would like to present a solution to the problem of unacceptable lyrics being broadcast.

In an article published in the Milwaukee Journal on February 24th, station manager Bob Betts stated that all radio stations have records which are banned from airplay. This may be true, but I have yet to see any radio station ban the broadcast of an entire category of music. What is happening here is not just censorship - it is the banning of music based on something other than lyrics. What that something is has become a secret reserved only for the MSOE administration.

There are several problems with a ban such as this. First, it makes DJ's unhappy. An unhappy DJ is more likely to play an offensive record that a happy DJ.

Second: How do you define heavy metal? What about Rush? What about the bands that don't have offensive lyrics? My personal favorite is the heavy metal band Stryper. Stryper has been banned from air play at WMSE because it is heavy metal. Stryper takes most of its' lyrics directly from the Bible. Does the administration mean to imply that Stryper is banned from air play? The Bible is banned from air play at WMSE? That is censorship. That is the banning of an entire category of music based on something other than lyrics. How else does one explain the removal of music of a band like Stryper from the WMSE library?

Third, DJ's are being told to "use their judgement" when deciding what to play. DJ's are being asked to determine what is and isn't acceptable to the MSOE administration. If the DJ is wrong, he or she is removed. If the administration has guidelines which should be followed regarding what can and can't be played, then those guidelines should be made

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INGENIUM

The MSOE *Ingenium* is the official student publication of the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Publication is once monthly. Letters to the editor are welcome on any relevant subject, but must contain signature, address, and phone number for verification. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit or reject and material not consistent with our editorial policy. Letters are limited to 300 words. Names will be withheld for valid reasons. Opinions expressed in such letters are not necessarily the opinions of the staff of the *Ingenium* or of the institution.

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Student Apathy Runs Rampant at MSOE

by Floyd R. Turbo

A couple of weeks ago, I heard some guys talking in the S-Lounge about all the 'stuff' that's wrong at MSOE. They were talking about the overloaded VAX, and smoking and other topics of great interest around the campus. I almost got up and went over to talk to them, but my new HP-28C was doing a neat program and I didn't want to miss the exciting conclusion. When I looked up, they were gone; "Oh well," I thought, "they probably didn't want to hear what I had to say anyways."

That night when I was checking out some new software that I had just traded for, a friend stopped by my room and asked if I had been to the student forum last quarter. "What's that?" I asked. "Oh, its this meeting where administrators and faculty are asked questions by students. They get to respond as best they can, and then the bell rings and everybody says 'Gee, wasn't that splendid.'"

Wow, what a concept. I had never heard of another school where the higher-ups actually could be called upon by students to comment upon matters of importance. I asked a few friends of mine if they knew about the forum. Well, the response was less than encouraging. One female said a club she was in held a mandatory meeting that day, so she didn't make it. I even brought it up in a class, and the teacher said he had intended to go, but alas, he too had another meeting scheduled. I was beginning to think there was a conspiracy to prevent attendance, but the number of comments like, "Oh, really, I was watching 'Days,'" or, "My first class was at two, so I slept until noon" kept my faith in the student apathy alive.

Well, the next Forum is in just a few weeks, so if we all start planning now, maybe a few more of us will make it. I'd give away the big secret about the date, but then you won't have to pick up a forum questionnaire that gives you all the info, along with providing a chance to ask about your favorite MSOE pet peeve. Hopefully, the turnout will be better this time around; that way, next year I might

be able to entitle this article "Student Activism Peaks as Forum Approaches." ★

SPRING FORUM

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO PUT THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE SPOT. FILL OUT A FORUM QUESTIONNAIRE AND ATTEND THE FORUM ON TUESDAY, APRIL 26 AT 12 NOON IN S-341

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available to the DJ's. It is unfair to judge a DJ on terms with which he or she is not familiar. I'm not talking about the obvious cases here. Four letter words relating to human excretory functions are not the issue. The problem arises in the borderline cases. If the administration would publish a list of objective criteria by which to judge songs, the confusion would end. As is presently stands, DJ's have to play "job roulette" and hope that a song won't make the administration unhappy.

It would be stupid to think that metal will be brought back in its' past form. The administration of MSOE owns WMSE, and they have jurisdiction over what is broadcast. However, I feel that the administration should consider other methods of addressing the problem before banning the music. My suggestion relates to the issue of responsibility. As station manager Bob Betts often states, "There is no music that must be played." In the spirit of that statement, I propose that the policy of holding DJ's responsible for what is broadcast be enforced. DJ's must be held responsible for what is broadcast. The idea is simple - if a DJ regularly plays material that is considered unsuitable for broadcast, REMOVE HIM!!!! Get the DJ's who insist on playing unsuitable material OUT! It is unfair to punish responsible DJ's and the bands whose music they play for the actions of a few DJ's who feel that they are above the rules.

A concerned WMSE DJ. ★

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visits to high schools with a high minority enrollments. On second visits to selected high schools, members of NTA/NSBE accompany the admissions staff. MSOE sponsors a March Minority Conference for 100 high school students. The admissions office also stated that twelve blacks registered for the freshman class.

Although minorities have a good support system on campus, it is not properly emphasized. More faculty encouragement is needed, especially for incoming students, in order to achieve successful careers in engineering. A statement by Dr. Spitzer reflects the atmosphere at MSOE: "I'm very proud to have a growing number of minority students. I consider them fine members of the MSOE family. I hold great hope for successful careers, because with them I see the acceptance of sacrifices and hard work, a willingness to prepare for needed careers, and a spirit that we are all God's children and all citizens of a great nation.

"I predict that many future leaders, badly needed today, will emerge from our school population today. I would hope that high school students and families will begin early to prepare for engineering and business education. It is a great opportunity and will pay the price for work and dedication. I'm proud of our minority students and minority graduates who are really achieving." ★